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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
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DIA FOR IR BRANCH; USCINCSO ALSO FOR POLAD
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E.O. 12356: DECL: 9-13-89
TAGS: PREL, PINR, BL
SUBJECT: EXTRADITION OF JACQUES LECLERC TO FRANCE
1. (U) JACQUES LECLERC WAS EXPELLED BY BOLIVIA TO
FRANCE ON AUGUST 25, 1983. LECLERC IS ONE OF A GROUP
OF PARAMILITARY COLLABORATORS OF THE GARCIA MEZA
REGIME WHOM GOB OFFICIALS HAVE SOUGHT TO EXTRADITE.
THE SUBSECRETARY OF INTERIOR, GUSTAVO SANCHEZ,
ANNOUNCED THAT HIS EXPULSION WAS CARRIED OUT WITH
THE COOPERATION OF THE FRENCH EMBASSY.
2. (U) LECLERC WAS ARRESTED IN MARCH, 1983 BY
AGENTS OF THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR. DURING DETENTION,
HE REPORTEDLY ADMITTED HIS INVOLVEMENT WITH "LOS NOVIOS
DE LA MUERTE" (SUITORS OF DEATH), A NEO-NAZI GROUP

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WHICH WAS LINKED TO NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING AND TO PARAMILITARY ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF EX-INTERIOR MINISTER LUIS ARCE GOMEZ. THE GROUP WAS HEADED BY JOACHIM FIEBLEKORN, WHO ACCORDING TO THE SUBSECRETARY WAS ASSOCIATED WITH EX-GESTAPO HEAD **KLAUS BARBIE** DURING WORLD WAR II.

3. (C) LECLERC'S BACKGROUND WAS NOT PARTICULARLY NOTE-WORTHY. ACCORDING TO EMBASSY SOURCES, HE LEFT FRANCE IN 1979, AFTER A ONE-YEAR PRISON SENTENCE FOR ASSAULT. HE SHOWED UP IN SANTA CRUZ IN 1980, WHERE HE LATER ACKNOWLEDGED WORKING BOTH AS A NARCOTICS TRAFFICKER AND AS A COLLABORATOR WITH NARCOTICS POLICE. HE WORKED WITH THE ITALIAN TERRORIST PIERLUIGI PAGLIAI; AND ALSO WAS ASSOCIATED WITH THE ARGENTINE PARAMILITARY MARIO MINGOLLA, WHOM THE GOB IS STILL HOLDING IN CUSTODY. ALTHOUGH LECLERC WAS ORIGINALLY WANTED IN CONNECTION WITH THE BOLOGNA RAILROAD BOMBING, THIS COULD NEITHER BE PROVED OR DISPROVED BY THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT.

4. (C) THE BOLIVIAN PERMANENT ASSEMBLY OF HUMAN RIGHTS WAS ALSO PERIPHERALLY INVOLVED IN THE LECLERC CASE. SINCE HE WAS DETAINED OVER SIX MONTHS AND SERIOUSLY ILL, ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT FATHER JULIO TUMIRI SPOKE WITH THE PRISONER AND WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN HAVING HIM TRANSFERRED TO A MEDICAL CLINIC PRIOR TO HIS EXPULSION. HIS INTEREST WAS IN GETTING LECLERC OUT OF THE COUNTRY, AS OPPOSED TO A LONG DETENTION.

5. (C) THE DEPUTY CHIEF OF THE FRENCH EMBASSY INFORMED POL/OFF THAT LECLERC'S EXPULSION WAS ARRANGED AS A FAVOR TO BOLIVIA, WHICH DID NOT WANT TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR TREATING HIS COSTLY ILLNESS. LECLERC HAD LEFT HIS FAMILY IN FRANCE. HE IS NOW UNDER TREATMENT THERE, REPORTING TO A JUDGE UNDER HIS OWN RECOGNIZANCE.

6. (C) COMMENT: LECLERC'S EXTRADITION WILL PROBABLY HAVE LITTLE EFFECT ON THE NARCOTICS FIELD, SINCE HE WAS NOT CONSIDERED AN IMPORTANT OPERATOR. NOR WILL IT GAIN BOLIVIA MUCH INTERNATIONAL CREDIT, SINCE WHILE GOB AND HUMAN RIGHTS GROUPS WERE GLAD TO GET RID OF LECLERC, FRANCE WAS NOT IN A HURRY TO TAKE HIM BACK. DRAFTED BY CHARLOTTE E. ROE. CORR

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